

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

Hubbard History Project

Hubbard Bicentennial History

O. H. 410

NAOMI HAYMAN

Interviewed

by

Mrs. William Glaser

on

April 27, 1976

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM

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INTERVIEWEE: NAOMI HAYMAN

INTERVIEWER: Mrs. William Glaser

SUBJECT: Family Background, Early History of Hubbard Schooling,
Significant Events of Hubbard, Career and Hobbies

DATE: April 27, 1976

G: This is an interview with Mrs. George Hayman for the Youngstown State University Oral History Program, Hubbard History Project, by Mrs. William Glaser, at the home of Mrs. Hayman, 511 West Liberty Street, Hubbard, Ohio, given on April 27, 1976, at 1:30 p.m.

Mrs. Hayman, what do you remember about your parents and your family?

H: I was born on a farm about three miles southeast of Hubbard, just across the county line in Mahoning County. I lived there until 1945, when we moved into Hubbard on Church Street. My parents were hardworking, farm people. Plowing, planting and gathering of the ripened crops was done with a team of horses. The team I remember best were two, big, white horses, John and Charlie. Dad kept a flock of sheep and when he called to them they would come from the farthest corner of the pasture. They did not respond to any other member of the family in this manner. We had milk cows, and mother churned. We baked our bread. I have fond memories of the farm, although I am very happy to be living in Hubbard now.

G: Would you like to tell us something about your childhood?

H: Yes. There was a small creek that ran through our land that had its beginning up in our woods. The creek with its fish and little crabs and so on was always a delight to us youngsters. We spent many an hour trying to catch a fish on a bent pin, which of course never worked.

G: Do you remember what your school was like, your school

days?

- H: The first four years that I went to school I had to walk a mile on dirt roads. Because I was so far from home with no one to go with me, mother kept me home until I was seven. Then at the end of the fourth grade the schools were consolidated and we went to Coitsville. We were taken in the kid van, as we called it, a wagon with seats down each side, pulled by horses. Ray and Cliff Brownlee had that job all the time while I was going to school in Coitsville. They lived in the neighborhood. I remember once the snow was too deep for me to walk through so dad said he would take me on horseback. When I went to get on the horse he gave me a pretty big push and I went clear over and landed on the other side of the horse in the snow. Luckily, the snow was deep enough that I wasn't hurt. That time I went on horseback.
- G: Does anything stand out during your high school years?
- H: I went to school in Coitsville for the three years. I particularly remember the basketball games because the girls always played the preliminary game before the boys did. I was on the team and thoroughly enjoyed that. Then my fourth year I came to Hubbard and graduated from Hubbard.
- G: I think I remember the basketball teams for the girls in those days. You were either a forward or a guard, right?
- H: I was a forward. Then there was a jumping center; I was not tall enough for that.
- G: Why did you decide to become a teacher?
- H: I guess because my grandfather Dennison was a teacher and so was my mother. It just seemed the thing for me to do. I have the bell that both my grandfather and my mother used to call the children in from recess and lunch.
- G: Where did you have your training?
- H: Kent State Teacher's College.
- G: Did you have to go two years or four?
- H: You could go one. In September of 1923, I attended Kent for one year and one summer session. I then was able to teach. My first assignment in teaching was at Thornhill Avenue, fifth grade. The second year was in Hubbard. By going to summer sessions at Kent State, I graduated with a B.S. degree in 1934. I later did graduate work at the University of Southern California.

G: When you attended Kent was it called Kent State Normal School?

H: Yes.

G: Did you enjoy teaching?

H: I always enjoyed teaching, and I still enjoy children. I am not too sure that I could teach nowadays because I believed in discipline. From what I see and hear we do not have too much of that part of the time. Not always, of course. I think that some of the happiest years of my life were while I was teaching and working with children.

G: I remember that I had you as my art teacher.

H: I remember too.

G: Did I have art more than one year?

H: Yes, you would have it three: fourth, fifth, and sixth grade.

G: That was when I first met you. It was my pleasure to have you as a teacher, and then later in life you were my good neighbor and friend.

Since your school days, what events do you think are outstanding?

H: The television is one. My father died in 1946 so he never saw television. I know he would have thoroughly enjoyed it. Then, of course, if anyone had told dad that men would walk on the moon some day, he would have thought they were dreaming. By way of television, I have watched our astronauts walk on the moon. I was very proud of them.

G: I know that you have traveled a great deal and have enjoyed that so much. Would you like to tell a little about the places that you have gone and what you have enjoyed?

H: When George was living we spent several summers traveling to Canada and Nova Scotia. We have also traveled through the western states. Of course, photography is maybe my real excuse for going. I certainly worked it in and enjoyed it very much.

G: Would you like to mention how you have categorized your pictures?

H: Having spent a great deal of time down in Florida and

Everglades National Park, I have one program on that that I've given many times. I also have a program on on trans-Canada memories, which is from west to east across Canada. We went to Hawaii once and I have a program on that too.

G: Looking back, what changes would you have liked to have seen instituted in Hubbard in the community?

H: I would like to see each person a little more neighborly, a little more caring towards the other person. We are told in the Bible to love your neighbor as yourself. Unless we can bring that love into our own hearts and then show it, we're not following the Bible teachings very well.

G: I feel that there was a change in Hubbard, and I felt it occurred after World War II.

H: Yes, I think you're right.

G: Hubbard about doubled in size.

H: It came quickly. I think that, perhaps, is one reason . . . When I was teaching here and walked up the street at noon, I knew many, many people. Now I go down the street and it's very seldom that I meet more than two or three that I know.

G: I think that's true. I have noticed it in the church also. I used to know everybody in church.

When we had talked earlier you had told me that in your background you recall incidents in the life of your grandparents and great-grandparents. Would you like to enlarge on that a little before we close our interview?

H: By 1800 the surveying of Ohio into counties and townships was completed. The people who were interested in buying this new land began arriving; many came by stagecoach to New Bedford, Pennsylvania, where they rented horses to ride into the wilderness to select their homestead. One such person was my great-great-grandfather, William Hanna. He bought a sizable farm in Hubbard Township. In 1801 he was preparing to bring his family of wife, Ester and three sons, John, Thomas and Isaac [to Hubbard]. They were coming in a covered wagon drawn by two oxen. With five people plus household goods, an important question was how to transport their three pigs. Mr. Hanna decided to feed the pigs under the wagon for two months before starting west from Chartiers Creek, which in three miles north of Cannonsburg, Washington County, Pennsylvania. It worked. The pigs followed the wagon all the way into Ohio.

In 1802 the family joined the Presbyterian church in New Bedford, Pennsylvania. John Hanna, the eldest son and my great-grandfather, was born in 1789 and died in 1862. His son, Calvin, was my grandfather; he was born in 1832 and died in 1918.

The story has come down through the family about numerous bears in the area. When a bear was treed, neighbors would alert those near dogs, and men with guns would shoot the animal and divide the meat. One such bear got into the pigpen one night. My great-grandfather, John, and other members of the family went to the rescue. Buff and Lion, their dogs, started ahead of them for the pigpen. Buff went for the bear and the bear slashed him with his sharp claws and that was the end of the dog.

Another story told was of a very, deep snowstorm. The youngest brother, Isaac, had gone into Hubbard to get some flour ground from wheat. He was up before daylight and started into Hubbard with a horse and wagon. When he got into the mill, there were a good many people lined up ahead of him even though he had tried to get there early. Several hours later he started for home and found a deep snow had fallen and traveling was very difficult. He was worried about the family and the livestock. Upon reaching home he found that his wife had made a path, with a team of oxen, from the barn to the house to the road and back. She had been making this pathway since noon. Those early settlers would surely be surprised to see our paved roads and big trucks of today.

G: Any other interesting events?

H: I guess maybe that's enough for this time.

G: I want to thank you very much for the interview. I have enjoyed it.

H: I have enjoyed it too.

END OF INTERVIEW